

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) A probe for determining an oxygen concentration in a gas mixture, comprising:

a Nernst measuring cell including:

a Nernst electrode exposed to the gas mixture to be measured via a diffusion barrier, a reference electrode exposed to a reference gas, and a solid electrolyte body arranged between the Nernst electrode and the reference electrode;

a pump cell including:

an inner pump electrode exposed to the gas mixture via the diffusion barrier, an outer pump electrode exposed to the gas mixture, and a solid electrolyte body arranged between the inner pump electrode and the outer pump electrode;

a joint supply conductor section through which the Nernst electrode and the inner pump electrode are connected to a circuit arrangement for controlling and evaluating the probe; and

a loaded voltage divider including a plurality of resistors that are arranged such that a negative feedback of a Nernst voltage circuit and of a pump voltage circuit is optimized, the plurality of resistors including a joint supply conductor resistor associated with the Nernst electrode and the inner pump electrode; ~~wherein the negative feedback is optimized by adjusting magnitudes of the resistors wherein magnitudes of the plurality of resistors are chosen so as to reduce a rippling effect at a stoichiometric point.~~

Claim 7 (Canceled).

8. (Previously Presented) The probe according to claim 6, wherein:

the gas mixture corresponds to an exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine.

9. (Previously Presented) The probe according to claim 6, further comprising:

an additional external resistor connected in series to the joint supply conductor section.

10. (Previously Presented) The probe according to claim 6, wherein:

a cross section of the joint supply conductor section is minimized.

11. (Previously Presented) The probe according to claim 10, further comprising:

printed conductor sections via which the Nernst electrode and the inner pump electrode are connected to a contact point, wherein:

the cross section of the joint supply conductor section is smaller than a cross section of the printed conductor sections.

12. (Previously Presented) The probe according to claim 6, wherein:

the Nernst electrode and the inner pump electrode are connected to the circuit arrangement via the joint supply conductor section by a contact point, and

the contact point is located directly downstream of the Nernst electrode and the inner pump electrode at a first distance such that a second distance of the joint supply conductor section is of a maximum length.